

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

In response to the Examiner's further Office Action of August 21, 2008 issued with respect to the present RCE application, the Applicant respectfully submits the following Remarks.

Regarding 35 USC 102(b) and 103(a) Rejections

It is respectfully submitted that the subject matter of pending independent claim 1, and claims 2, 3 and 5-32 dependent therefrom, is not disclosed or suggest by newly cited Wertheimer et al. (US 5,920,630) either taken alone or in view of previously cited Schneier, for at least the following reasons.

Wertheimer is specifically directed to a key escrow system in which session keys are produced and the session time information used to produce the session keys, i.e., month, year and day) is escrowed for use in decrypting the session keys. That is, Wertheimer specifically discloses that a hash function is applied to not only User A's secret key and User B's identifier, but also to the session time information and other information (see col. 2, lines 44-54 and col. 6, line 65-col. 7, line 51).

Accordingly, the method disclosed by Wertheimer is different than the method of the claimed invention in which a one way function is only applied to the secondary entities' identifiers and the first secret key

Further, it is respectfully submitted that Schneier does not provide any disclosure which would motivate one of ordinary skill in the art to modify the process disclosed by Wertheimer with respect to the claimed invention.

It is respectfully submitted that all of the Examiner's rejections have been traversed. Accordingly, it is submitted that the present application is in condition for allowance and reconsideration of the present application is respectfully requested.

Very respectfully,

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